

REMARKS

The application was filed on 22 June 2001 with seventeen claims. The Examiner examined the application and on 21 April 2005 issued a first Action rejecting claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2001/0032092 A1 entitled SMALL BUSINESS WEB-BASED PORTAL METHOD AND SYSTEM to Calver (Calver '092).

Applicants respond. Applicants amend claims, cancel claims 3, 5 and 11, 12, and present new claims 18-30 for examination. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-10, 13-30 are pending.

In amending the claims and adding the new claims, Applicants have not added new matter. Support in the originally filed specification for "integration into a database" was given in the original claim 3. Support in the originally filed specification for "assessed for impact on the other of the architecture portions prior to implementation" is given on page 5, line 11. Support in the originally filed specification for new claims 18-30 is given on page 10, line through page 12, line 22.

The Rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

The Examiner rejected claim 12 as being indefinite because the claim is vague on particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the Lotus Notes database. In response, Applicants have amended the specification to reflect that LOTUS NOTES is a trademarked name and have cancelled claim 12.

The Rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) by Calver '092

The Examiner rejected claims 1-17 as being anticipated by Calver '092. Calver '092 teaches a method and system in a remote computer network for interactively providing user-tailored financial and business information via a Small Business Web Portal. The interesting and distinguishing thing about Calver '092 and the claimed invention is that Calver '092 does not teach or suggest the claimed business enterprise system and method having a business architectural portion integrated in a database and an information technology architectural portion of the business integrated in the

same database whereby changes to one architectural portion are evaluated for the impact on the other architectural portion before the changes are implemented.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 18-30.

Independent claims 1 and 30 are directed to an enterprise system having two architectural portions integrated into a single database, one relating to the business of the business and the other relating to the information technology of the business. Dependent claims 2, 4, 6, 18-29 elaborate on features included in the database whereby the impact of changes in one of the two portions can be realistically evaluated. Applicants assert that Calver '092 cannot anticipate the claims because Calver '092 does not teach a system having the business and the information technology systems integrated into a single database. Calver '092 teaches a web portal system whereby a business wanting to implement changes or just desiring additional information concerning a myriad of aspects for its business is guided through answering appropriate web-based questionnaires, and then ... voila! directions to web sites having further information about web-enabled products and solutions appear to the user. *See* Calver '092 from page 12, ¶ [0138] through page 13, ¶ [0141]. Impacts of those changes are not evaluated in the architectural portions integrated in a single database or entity.

Specifically, the Examiner has stated that element 92 in Figure 4 of Calver '092 is the framework of the business operations and objectives as claimed by Applicants. Applicants respectfully disagree; element 92 in Figure 4 is nothing more than a computer having a browser, *see* page 4, ¶ [0049]. Element 92 does not describe the business in a database at all, nor does Calver '092 suggest so. The Examiner further states that element 88 of Figure 4 is the information technology processing; element 88 is nothing more than another computer with which the first computer communicates, *see* page 4, ¶ [0050-0052]. Again, Calver '092 does not suggest or hint and certainly, does not specifically state that element 88 is an information technology processing system integrated in the same database as the business architectural portion. The Examiner, moreover, states that the computer 92 and the server 88 are integrated in a single database as in element 212 of Figure 12, the Brochureware of Calver '092. At

page 11, ¶[0130], the feature set “Brochureware” is defined as business specific information with some high level product description; that’s all; the Brochureware is not an integrated enterprise business system as claimed. Specifically, Brochureware is only one functional component, as is Interactive Marketing 214, used by the Examiner as to reject the limitations of claim 5, now incorporated in claim 1. The Interactive Marketing 214 questionnaire of Calver ‘092 is described by Calver ‘092 as industry/business/product information that will be “pushed” onto the user by other businesses based on her/his answers to the questionnaire, *see* Figure 12, element 214. Such a questionnaire and a sales push by other business to sell businesses or products or services is not the same as an integrated database having both the business and the information technology features of a business enterprise; it is merely a questionnaire intended to guide a user through a web-based portal and for other web-based business to access the user. Calver ‘092 does teach that these functional components may be contained in a database but changes to one of the functional components is not reflected in any of the other functional components, and Calver ‘092 does not suggest so.

Calver ‘092 at page 4, ¶[0054] states that the web-based portal “provides a user-friendly environment in which marketing, lead generation, and products and services are provided to small business owners, the portal also provides educational and transactional information and interactive and marketing tools for small businesses. Calver ‘092 does not even mention including a business’s business portion and information technology portion together into a single database wherein proposed changes are evaluated for their impact before implementation.

Respectfully, Applicants request the Examiner to withdraw the rejection of claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 18-30 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) under Calver ‘092.

Claims 7- 10, 13-17

Claims 7 and 9 are independent claims of a method of modeling a business enterprise and its information technology processing, and coordinating the business architecture and the information technology architecture, respectively.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(e) as being anticipated by Calver '092 because Calver '092 does not teach the claimed element of "using changes in the business objectives to reflect changes in the information technology architecture and the business architecture." The Examiner alleges that the claimed feature is taught by Calver '092 in Figure 10, element 198. Element 198 of Calver '092 is a Product Configurator further described on page 5, ¶[0063]. The Product Configurator is a questionnaire to determine which products and services may be of greatest interest and utility to the user. No changes to any of the user's business or information technology architectures will be reflected based on the output of the Product Configurator. Respectfully, the Examiner assumes too much.

With respect to claims 9-10, 13-17, a method of coordinating a business architecture with its information technology architecture, Calver '092 does not teach the claimed method. The Online Product Application 234 and the Management Best Practices 236 and the Product Configurator 242, used by the Examiner to reject claim 9 are only questionnaires to determine who might be able to provide services and goods to the user based on the answers to these questions. Industry Specific Information 246, used by the Examiner to reject claim 11, now cancelled but which limitations were incorporated into independent claim 9, is only another on-line questionnaire that a user fills out to generate leads for those businesses connected to the web-based portal. The Examiner uses the Pre-Qualifying Templates 216, used by the Examiner to reject claim 14 asserting this the same as Applicants' claimed method of coordinating the reference architectures and the current information technology environment that influence the framework and the application software. The Pre-Qualifying Template 216 is a just another questionnaire that determines if the user's business makes enough money, has enough employees, etc. to qualify for the interest of other business on the web. The Sales Process Drill Down 232, used by the Examiner to reject claim 15, is nothing more than a series of questions to determine which other businesses have the products or services relevant to the user. The questionnaires are not the business and information technology architecture of a business!

Conclusion

Applicants distinguish the claimed invention from Calver '092 by asserting that Calver '092 does not have the information technology processing system of a business in one architectural portion and the business information of a business in another architectural portion, and these portions are integrated into a single database and changes in one architectural portion are evaluated for their impact on the other architectural portion before the changes are implemented. Calver '092 teaches a method of answering questions on a web-based portal that businesses can access each other and provide products/services/information about their own business. Applicants have deleted claim 5, thereby mooting the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Attorney for Applicants thank the Examiner for her/his review of the specification, the figures, and the claims. Having reviewed the art submitted by the Examiner, Attorney for Applicants requests the Examiner to allow all claims. The Examiner is further invited to telephone the Attorney listed below if she/he thinks it would expedite the prosecution and the issuance of the patent.

Date: 21 July 2005
Customer No. 54,462

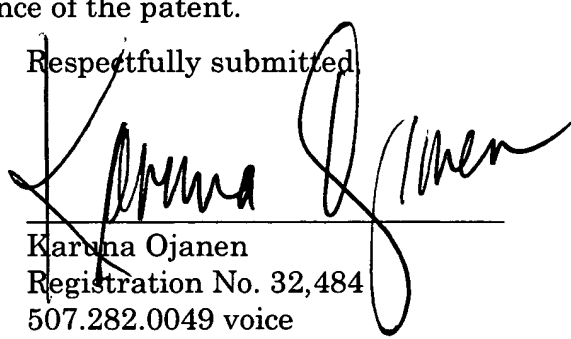
54462

54462

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Respectfully submitted,

By


Karina Ojanen
Registration No. 32,484
507.282.0049 voice
507.281.5722 fax